



Cleves School Learning Together

GPS Handbook

Guide to

Grammatical Terms

Word Classes

Word Class	Example
Noun <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Names a person, place, object or thing	<i>The <u>child</u> raced out of the wooden <u>door</u> rapidly until he reached his best <u>friend</u>.</i>
Verb <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tells us what the noun is doing - action words/being words	<i>The child <u>raced</u> out of the wooden door rapidly until he <u>reached</u> his best friend.</i>
Adjective <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Describes the noun	<i>The child raced out of the <u>wooden door</u> rapidly until he reached his <u>best</u> friend.</i>
Adverb <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tells us <u>how</u>, <u>where</u> or <u>when</u> the action takes place (often -ly)	<i>The child raced out of the wooden door <u>rapidly</u> until he reached his best friend.</i>
Preposition <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tells you <u>where</u> or <u>when</u> something is in relation to something else	<i>The child raced <u>out of</u> the wooden door rapidly until he reached his best friend.</i>
Determiner <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tell us which noun we are referring to	<i><u>The</u> child raced out of <u>the</u> wooden door rapidly until he reached <u>his</u> best friend.</i>
Conjunction <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Joins 2 or more ideas within a sentence	<i>The child raced out of the wooden door rapidly <u>until</u> he reached his best friend.</i>
Pronoun <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Replaces a noun to avoid repetition	<i>The child raced out of the wooden door rapidly until <u>he</u> reached his best friend.</i>

Phrases, Sentences and Clauses

Phrase

- A group of related words that act as one unit
a big dog/the boy with the messy, dark hair

Clause

- A group of words that describes an event or situation
- A clause usually contains a subject (she) and verb
she drank some water (event)
she was thirsty (situation)

Coordinating conjunction

- Words used to link two main clauses together
- FANBOYS - **F**or **A**nd **N**or **B**ut **O**r **Y**et **S**o
I like coffee, but I dislike tea.

Subordinating conjunction

- Words that introduce a subordinate clause (although, before, while, because, when, as)
We decided to wait until the next bus came.

Relative pronoun

- Words that introduce a relative clause providing information about somebody or something (who, whom, whose, which, that)
I know the boy who is standing over there.

Simple sentence

- A sentence containing only one clause

He dashed onto the platform.

Compound sentence

- A sentence containing two clauses of equal weight joined by a coordinating conjunction

He dashed onto the platform, but he missed his train.

Complex sentence

- A sentence that contains a main clause and one or more subordinate clauses

He dashed onto the platform despite being late.

Fronted adverbial

- Words or phrases at the beginning of a sentence that describe when (time), where (place) or how (manner) the action is taking place

Minutes later, he heard a noise. (Time)

In the distance, he saw a shadow. (Place)

Slowly, he crept along the corridor. (Manner)

Modal verb

- Modal verbs are used to change the meaning of other verbs. They can express certainty or possibility (will, would, can, could, may, might, shall, should, must, ought).

I can write this sentence by myself.

Passive voice

- Subject of the sentence receives the action of the verb

The boy was bitten by the dog.

Progressive form

- Indicates continuing action - uses *to be + ing verb*

He was talking.

We are talking.

Perfect form

- Indicates that an action was completed which will have consequences - uses *to have + ed verb/irregular form*

He had written a letter.

He has written a letter.

Types of sentences

Statement

- A sentence that tells you something

The girl was buying presents for her brother.

Question

- A sentence that asks something - ends with a ?

When will we buy the presents?

Exclamation

- A sentence that expresses strong emotion (shock, surprise, anger) - ends with a !

I can't believe it!

Command

- A sentence that tells you to do something - uses an imperative verb

Take the second right.

Imagery - Figurative Language

Simile

- Comparing one thing to another using like or as
as cold as ice – like a block of ice

Metaphor

- Describing something as if it were something else
a wave of emotions, an eruption of applause

Personification

- Describing a 'thing' or object as if it had human qualities
The mountain watched over the sleeping houses.

Alliteration

- Where the same letter is used at the start of a group of words

The squawking seagulls swooped swiftly.

Onomatopoeia

- Words that describe the sound an object makes
boom, crash, click, buzz, slap

Spelling Terms

Synonyms

- Words that have similar meanings
The ice is freezing. (cold, chilly, frosty, bitter)

Antonyms

- Words that have opposite meanings
fast > slow
tall > short

Prefixes

- A group of letters used at the start of a word to change the meaning
lock + un = unlock
take + mis = mistake

Suffixes

- A group of letters used at the end of a word to change the meaning
dance + ed = danced

event + full = eventful

Singular

- A noun that describes one thing
book, dish, flower, dog

Plural

- A noun that describes more than one thing
books, dishes, flowers, dogs

Comparative

- An adjective that compares two things + *er*
kind = kinder
pretty = prettier

Superlatives

- An adjective that compares a group of things + *est* or *most*
small = smallest
funny = funniest

Homophones

- Words that sound the same but have different meaning
to, too, two
their, there, they're